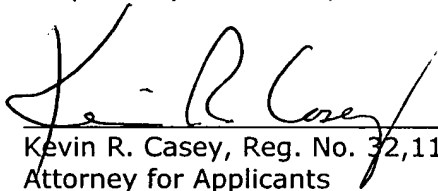


Remarks/Arguments:

By this preliminary amendment, the title, the specification, the claims, and the abstract have all been amended to place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. The applicants have amended the title to be consistent with the invention to which this application is directed and have amended the specification to identify the application as a continuation application and to correct typographical errors. The applicants have also amended the claims consistent with clarifications made during prosecution of the parent patent. The newly added claims 47 and 48 are fully supported by the specification and have been added to secure enhanced protection for the applicants' invention. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this preliminary amendment and issuance of a first action on the merits are requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Kathleen Libby

ABSTRACT

A device for the treatment of periodontal disease. The device includes a handle that has a configuration familiar to dental professionals and a cartridge that is locked into the handle when use, typically delivery of a composition to a periodontal pocket, is desired. The cartridge provides for effective delivery of compositions, such as agents, as its tip is deformable, typically from a circular to an oval shape so as to flatten. The deformation may be made either manually, by the dental professional, or upon contact with teeth or other tissues, whereby this flattened tip can penetrate deeply into periodontal pockets for quick and direct application of the composition, for example, therapeutic agents.